ATLAS
HUMAN TORCH

HUMAN TORCH

STARRING IN

MEN'S Adventures

MAY
NO. 27
10¢

BLAZE INTO FIERY ACTION WITH THE AMAZING HUMAN TORCH AND TORO

AND IN THIS GREAT ISSUE:
SUB-MARINER AND CAPTAIN AMERICA

TORCH
HUMAN TORCH
STARRING IN
MEN'S
Adventures
NO. 27
10¢
TORO, QUICK! FLAME ON!
WHAT'S UP?
IT'S THE TORCH! STEP ON IT, YOU FOOL!
TOO LATE! HE'S MELTING OUR CAR! WE'RE GONNA CRASH!
HOLD IT! WE STILL HAVE AN ACE IN THE HOLE!
BLAZE INTO FIERY ACTION WITH THE AMAZING
HUMAN TORCH
AND
TORO
AND IN THIS GREAT ISSUE:
SUB-MARINER AND
CAPTAIN AMERICA

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IT REALLY DID THE JOB! Was almost ready to give up!
A.G. Portland, Oregon

Lost 23 Pounds!
G.M.

Lost 34 Pounds! Feel wonderful!
A.E. Auburn, Ind.

MIRACLE!— All my friends think a miracle happened to me!
W.W.

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CHEW KAL-X GUM!

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MY NAME ____________________
MY ADDRESS ____________________
CITY ______________ STATE ________

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THE HUMAN TORCH

A CITY IS LIKE A HUMAN BEING! BENEATH THE OUTER SKIN LIES THE BONE AND BLOOD, THE ARTERIES, PIPES AND CONDUCTORS, FORMING AN INTRICATE MAZE BENEATH THE CITY STREETS THROUGH WHICH THE LIFE OF THE CITY FLOWS! THE CITY IS A BENEVOLENT GIANT, BUT, WHEN IN ITS DEATH THROES, IT BECOMES A MONSTER OF DESTRUCTION! TO SAVE A CITY AND ITS PEOPLE IN IT BECOMES THE VITAL TASK OF *THE HUMAN TORCH AND TORO!*

FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE! I'M GOING TO BEAT YOU AT YOUR OWN GAME, TORCH!

THIS IS GRAND CENTRAL STATION IN NEW YORK CITY! TRAINS, CONSTANTLY ARRIVE FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, SPEWING OUT THEIR HUMAN CARGO IN STEADY STREAMS THAT FLOW TO THE STREETS...

AND BURIED IN THE ANONYMITY OF THE CROWDS ARE SHIFTY, HARD-FACED, RUTHLESS MEN... THE WOLVES AND VULTURES OF SOCIETY!

NOT FAR FROM THE STATION, IN A HOSPITAL, A MAN LAY WORRIED AND ILL...
THIS IS JAKE MACKLIN WHO USED TO BE A SPECIAL AGENT FOR DAD!
I GUESS BETTY'S TOLD YOU ABOUT MY SON BOBBY?
SHE TOLD US THAT YOUR SON IS KEEPING BAD COMPANY!
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM SINCE I'VE BEEN SICK! I'VE HEARD HE'S BEEN SEEN IN THE COMPANY OF THE KIND OF MEN I USED TO PULL IN FOR POLICE LINEUPS!
HE ISN'T A BAD BOY, TORCH, BUT SOMEHOW HE'S GOTTEN IN WITH A BAD BUNCH! HE'S MET YOU AND THINKS YOU'RE SWELL! I THOUGHT IF YOU SPOKE TO HIM...
CERTAINLY HE WILL, JAKE! LEAVE IT TO US!
CLICK
LISTEN... IT'S GARY AKERS!
...AND THE HUMAN TORCH AND TORO, AS I'VE SAID BEFORE, ARE FREAKS, WHO HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO DO US GREAT HARM!
THEY ARE DIFFERENT... SOME STRANGE KIND OF ALIEN LIFE FORM, NOT FIT TO ASSOCIATE WITH NORMAL PEOPLE! I SAY PUT THEM BEHIND BARS!
HE'S CERTAINLY AFTER US!
GUYS LIKE GARY AKERS MUST ALWAYS SNAP AT SOMEBODY TO KEEP PEOPLE LISTENING TO THEIR PROGRAMS!
CLICK
AN HOUR LATER, AT THE OFFICE OF BETTY'S FATHER, CHIEF WILSON...
I'M GLAD YOU CAME! MAYBE YOU CAN HELP ME!
FIRST YOU'VE GOT TO HELP US! JAKE MACKLIN'S SON, BOBBY, HAS BEEN SEEN WITH DANGEROUS COMPANY! HAVE YOU GOT ANYTHING ON THE BOY?
NO I HAVEN'T... AND I'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS ON MY MIND! SUSPECTED CRIMINALS HAVE BEEN REPORTED SWARMING INTO NEW YORK FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY... THEN THEY DISAPPEAR! THEY'RE GONE... AS IF THE EARTH SWALLOWED THEM!

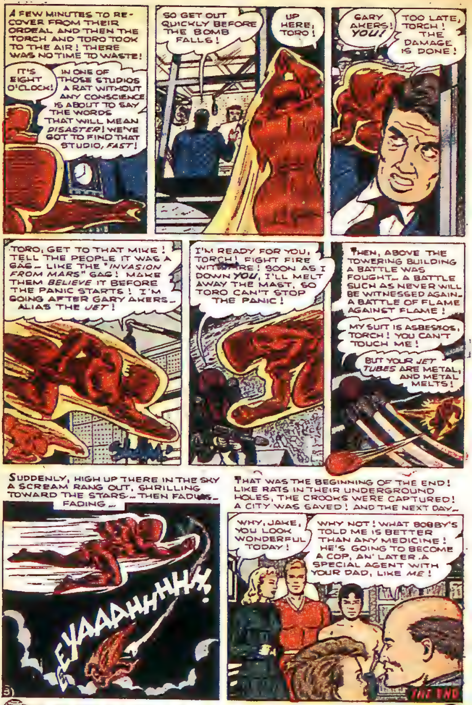
SOMETHING BIG IS UP... AND WE CAN'T GET A LINE ON IT AT ALL!
IF BOBBY MACKLIN IS ASSOCIATING WITH CRIMINALS, PERHAPS WE CAN GET THE INFORMATION FROM HIM! IT'S WORTH A TRY!
THEY LEFT AS THEY HAD COME, PROPELLED THROUGH THE AIR BY THE EXTENDED EXPLOSIVE QUALITY OF THE MYRIAD FLAMES THAT SHEATHED THEIR BODIES AT WILL!
WE'LL GO TO THE APARTMENT BOBBY AND HIS DAD HAVE, AND TRY TO PICK UP HIS TRAIL FROM THERE!
TORCH, LOOK... OVER THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING!
IT'S GONE NOW... BUT I COULD'VE SWORN I SAW A FIGURE IN A SORT OF SPACE SUIT, WITH JETS ATTACHED TO HIS BACK, FLYING DOWN TOWARD THE TOP OF THE BUILDING!
I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING, TORO! YOU'VE BEEN READING TOO MANY OF THOSE SCIENCE FICTION STORIES!
QUICK... DOWN BEHIND THAT CHIMNEY SO WE WON'T BE SEEN! THAT'S BOBBY DOWN THERE WITH TWO HOODS!
HE DOESN'T LOOK AS THOUGH HE'S TOO ANXIOUS TO GO WITH THEM! SHALL WE RESCUE HIM?
NO! LET THEM TAKE HIM AND WE'LL FOLLOW!
THE CAR SPED THROUGH THE CITY STREETS, ITS OCCUPANTS UNAWARE THAT HIGH ABOVE TWO FLAMING FIGURES WERE FOLLOWING...
THEY'RE PULLING UP IN FRONT OF THAT SUBWAY ENTRANCE!
IF THEY'VE GOT A CAR, WHAT DO THEY WANT WITH THE SUBWAY?
LET'S GET ONTO THIS BUILDING, TURN OUR FLAMES OFF AND GET TO THAT SUBWAY FAST!
I CAN'T HELP THINKING OF THAT STRANGE FIGURE I SAW, WITH THE JETS! I TELL YOU, TORCH, I DID SEE IT!

THAT TRAIN MUST'VE JUST PULLED IN AS THEY GOT DOWN HERE -- YET THEY DIDN'T TAKE IT!
MAYBE THEY'RE WAITING FOR A DIFFERENT TRAIN!
DOWNTOW
THEY'RE GOING ONTO THE TRACKS -- MUST BE GOING INTO THE TUNNEL!
THEY MUST HAVE THE TRAINS TIMED SO AS NOT TO BE CAUGHT OUT THERE BEFORE THEY REACH WHERE THEY'RE GOING -- WHEREVER IT IS!
THROUGH THE BLACKNESS OF THE TUNNEL THE TORCH AND TORO FOLLOW THE TINY FLASHLIGHT RAY AHEAD WHICH MARKED THE MOVEMENTS OF THEIR QUARRY!
THEY'RE GOING THROUGH A DOOR IN THE TUNNEL WALL!
THERE ARE MANY DOORS BELOW GROUND IN A BIG CITY LEADING TO THE PIPELINES THROUGH WHICH FLOW WATER, GAS, LIGHT, SEWERAGE, POWER, COMMUNICATIONS! BELOW THE STREETS FLOWS THE CITY'S LIFE!
I HEAR VOICES, BEYOND, IN THAT BIGGER CHAMBER THEY'RE ENTERING!
LOOK! UP ON THAT BALCONY! SO I READ TOO MANY SCIENCE FICTION STORIES, DO I?
I APOLOGIZE! IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE FOUND THE CRIMINALS THAT HAVE DISAPPEARED!
AT EIGHT O'CLOCK TONIGHT, ALL T.V. STATIONS WILL BE SWITCHED TO ONE STUDIO AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT WILL COME FROM THERE! YOUR MEN WILL DO THEIR ALLOTED TASKS AS THE POPULACE FLEES THE CITY! OUR BANDS WILL PULL THE BIGGEST JOB MANKIND HAS EVER SEEN!
THE SYSTEMATIC LOOTING OF NEW YORK CITY!
THE TORCH AND TORO!

GET THEM, YOU FOOLS!
THE SLUGS MELT BEFORE THEY HIT THEM!
GUNS ARE NO GOOD, JET! YOUR PLANS TO LOOT THE CITY ARE OVER NOW! AND SO ARE YOU!
UGH!!
NOT YET! I'M OPENING THIS VALVE, AND IF YOUR FLAME COMES NEAR IT, IT WILL CAUSE A CHAIN OF EXPLOSIONS THROUGH-OUT THE CITY, KILLING THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT PEOPLE!
FLAME OFF, TORO!
WITHOUT YOUR FLAMES, YOU'RE JUST ORDINARY HUMANS! MY PLANS WILL BE CARRIED OUT, AND THE NEXT TIME WE MEET, IF THERE IS A NEXT TIME, I'LL BE READY FOR YOU!
TURN OFF THAT GAS, TORO! WE'VE GOT TO GET HIM!
CLANG! THE GAS IS OFF! DO YOU SEE THAT, JET CHARACTER?
HE'S DISAPPEARED! NO USE TRYING TO FIND HIM IN THERE! IT'S A MAZE OF PIPES!
TORCH! TORO! BOY, WAS I GLAD TO SEE YOU! TWO OF THE GUYS I'D BEEN HANGING AROUND WITH SAW I WASN'T GOING INTO THE JET'S SET-UP, AND BROUGHT ME HERE! BUT YOU GOT TO THEM BEFORE THEY TOLD THE JET!
WE FOLLOWED YOU, BOBBY! THAT'S HOW WE FOUND THIS PLACE! BUT WE THOUGHT YOU WERE IN WITH THESE CROOKS!

I WAS A FOOL! DAD WAS ALWAYS PREACHING AND I TRIED TO SHOW MY INDEPENDENCE THIS WAY! BUT THIS PLAN OF THE JET'S...
HOW IS HE GOING TO MAKE THE PEOPLE FLEE THE CITY SO HE AND HIS WOLVES CAN LOOT IT?
THE T.V. TRANSMISSION TOWER ATOP THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING WILL BE SWITCHED TO ONE STUDIO! AN ANNOUNCEMENT WILL COME FROM THERE THAT THE CITY IS ABOUT TO BE ATOM-BOMBED! IN THE PANIC, THE JET'S MEN UNDERGROUND WILL SABOTAGE THE WATER, GAS, ELECTRICITY AND COMMUNICATIONS LINES, CUTTING OFF THE CITY!
FIRE AND FLOODS WILL SWEEP THROUGH NEW YORK KILLING ANY WHO REMAIN! THEN THE JET'S MEN, WEARING SPECIAL GAS MASKS, WILL LOOT BILLIONS OF DOLLARS AND GET AWAY BEFORE THE PANIC STOPS!
A PICTURE FORMED IN THE TORCH'S MIND... A PICTURE OF FRENZIED MOBS FLEEING AN ATOMIC HORROR... CRAZED BY FEAR, STRIPPED OF ALL HUMANITY... MEN TURNED TO ANIMALS BY THEIR DESPERATION!
CRUSHED, MAULED... THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT CHILDREN... MEN... WOMEN... KILLED IN THE MADNESS TO ESCAPE!
LISTEN, BOBBY... GET TO CHIEF WILSON, FAST! HAVE HIM BRING MEN HERE AND RAID THIS UNDERGROUND MAZE TO STOP THE SABOTAGE OF THE CITY'S UTILITIES! HURRY!
RIGHT!
WHAT NOW, TORCH?
YOU AND I ARE GOING TO THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING TO STOP THE JET BEFORE THAT ANNOUNCEMENT GOES ON THE AIR!
LOCAL DOWNTOWN
TORCH... LOOK! THAT TRAIN ISN'T STOPPING! IT SHOULD STOP AT THAT STATION!
I'VE GOT A HUNCH THE JET HAS MADE IT AN EXPRESS, HOPING TO PIN US HERE IN THE TUNNEL! COME ON... WE'VE GOT TO RUN!
4013

WE CAN'T TURN ON OUR FLAME AND FUSE THE TRACKS TO STOP THE TRAIN! THAT WOULD WRECK IT AND INJURE THE PEOPLE RIDING IN IT! LOOK FOR ONE OF THOSE CUTBACKS IN THE WALL!
THUNDER FILLED THE TUNNEL! IT QUAKED AND SHOOK AROUND THEM AS THOUGH SHUDDERING AT THE FATE PLUNGING DOWN UPON THEM...
A DOOR, TORCH!
WHEW, THAT WAS CLOSE!
IT'S GETTING LATE... MUST BE ALMOST EIGHT O'CLOCK! WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE STUDIO!
THIS IS A CURIOUS PLACE... LOOKS LIKE AN OLD SEALED WELL!
COME ON! THE TRAIN'S PASSED!
SOMEONE SLAMMED AND LOCKED THE DOOR!
WE'LL BURN THROUGH! FLAME ON!
TORCH, THIS IS THE JET! YOUR FLAME WILL EAT UP THE OXYGEN IN THAT CELL QUICKLY, BEFORE YOU CAN BURN YOUR WAY OUT!
WITHOUT OXYGEN, FIRE CAN'T LIVE... AND NEITHER CAN YOU!
HE'S RIGHT! MY FLAME IS WEAK NOW!
THE AIR'S GETTING BAD!
THEIR FLAME WENT OUT! BLACKNESS CLUTCHED THEIR THROATS, THE BLACKNESS OF SUFFOCATION... OF DEATH!
AT LEAST BOBBY WILL GET THE MESSAGE THROUGH!
TORCH... I HEAR SOMETHING... SOMEONE WORKING... OUTSIDE THE DOOR...
A GRATING SOUND... OUTSIDE... BITING AT THE LOCK! MINUTES SEEMED LIKE HOURS! THEN THE DOOR SLAMMED OPEN AND AIR FLOWED IN...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? I SAW THE TRAIN GO THROUGH WITHOUT STOPPING, AND WAITED! THEN I SAW THE JET AND HIS MEN, SLAM A DOOR WHEN IT PASSED!
YOU SAVED OUR LIVES, BOBBY!



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EDGE OF THE WORLD

MY name is Wendell Jackson and I have a strange story to tell you. Some of you may believe my tale . . . most of you will not. I am certain that the great majority of you who read these words will scoff and laugh and call me a fool. But nevertheless, I must speak out. I must tell all who will listen of this thing that has happened to me!

I am a cartographer by profession, or at least I was. I made maps of the world, of continents and of countries. With the everchanging international situation, you can imagine that I was kept pretty busy revising the maps my company produced. I have always loved the subject of geography, and did all the reading I possibly could on the lives and adventures of history's great explorers. I even had a valuable collection of old maps used by some of the well known as well as some of the lesser known explorers of the past, both on land and at sea.

I spent many hours poring over these ancient maps, seemingly reliving the excitement and the wild dreams of those early explorers who dared to defy the pessimists and critics of their day, and went out across the seas in search of new lands, new discoveries! And it was all because of my imaginative ramblings with these old explorers that a strange thought came to me one day, and brought about the eventual predicament in which I now find myself. I remember that day so clearly, as if it had occurred only yesterday!

I was in my private work room, looking over some ancient maps before dinner. It was strange to see the imaginary sea monsters sketched in the ocean spaces on the maps. The map makers of former centuries certainly seemed to believe in the superstitious beliefs of their time. This was evidenced by the inclusion of sea monsters on the very maps they made for explorers to use for reference purposes during their perilous journeys. And somehow, as I glanced at these old maps that early evening, I began to think about one of the greatest explorers of them all . . . Columbus! It was supposedly *his* conception that the world is round that changed the art of map making.

Before the time of Columbus, the map makers and explorers in general held the belief that the world is *flat* . . . and that if a ship should sail far enough in a certain direction, it would fall off the edge of the world, and fall off into oblivion! Today people laugh at such an idea. But it was no laughing matter in the days before Columbus. It was a point believed in and sworn to by the scientists who dispensed knowledge and information in the universities of Europe and in the royal courts. And then I myself began to wonder . . . How could we be certain that somewhere in this world of ours, there is not a strip of land or a body of water that comes to an abrupt ending, beyond which there is a bottomless chasm?

Well, that is how it all started! I gathered together all the old maps I could get my hands on and began to pore over them and take notes. For days, after the thought first came to me, I studied these maps with one purpose in mind. I wanted to pinpoint the area on these old charts which the majority of the old map makers had agreed on as the probable locale of the edge of the world. Most of them had selected a spot in the Indian Ocean, just off the island of Madagascar, as the area where the world ended and beyond which point disaster would surely strike. I, the skeptic who dared to cross beyond that vital spot.

So be it, I thought to myself! I would make arrangements for a journey to Madagascar and prove the theories wrong, myself. If I could find nothing but a continuing horizon and the ocean, then I would know that the ancient map makers had been fools in their conception of the world! In fact, I booked passage to Madagascar in June . . . the voyage took a couple of weeks, time which I found re-

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY...

SKINNY

MEN ARE OFTEN ASHAMED TO STRIP FOR SPORTS OR FOR A SWIM!

GIRLS ARE NOT ALLURING AND DON'T HAVE EYE-CATCHING CURVES!

CHILDREN WHO WON'T EAT AND ARE UNDERWEIGHT, OFTEN CALLED SKINNY!

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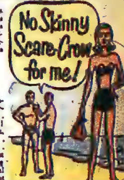

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CAPTAIN AMERICA

EGYPT! EXOTIC LAND OF MYSTERY AND ROMANCE! HOME OF THE PHARAOHS AND THE PYRAMIDS AND THE SPHINX! AH, BUT THAT WAS ALL IN ANCIENT TIMES. YOU SAY? EXCITEMENT AND ADVENTURE ARE DEAD TODAY? THEN SEE IF YOU STILL THINK SO AFTER YOU FOLLOW CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY ON THE DANGER-PACKED TRAIL OF...

"THE GIRL WHO WAS AFRAID!"

AMONG THE EIGHT-BEERS IN EGYPT THERE ARE TWO FINE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. ARMY ON LEAVE - STEVE ROGERS AND BUCKY...

STEVE, YOU WOULDN'T THINK THIS QUIET LITTLE TOWN HAD SUCH AN EXCITING HISTORY, WOULD YOU, STEVE?

A LOT HAPPENED HERE, BUCKY, FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS! AND IT'S STILL GOING ON!

STILL GOING ON? WHERE? I DON'T SEE ANYTHING!

IT'S NOT ALL ON THE SURFACE, FOR INSTANCE, LOOK AT THAT CHARACTER COMING OVER TO US...

AH! AMERICAN SOLDIERS! WELCOME TO MY COUNTRY!

I AM ADU BEY, AND MY FAVORITE PEOPLE ARE AMERICANS! I WOULD BE HIGHLY HONORED TO HAVE YOU AS GUESTS AT MY HOME!
I'M STEVE ROGERS AND THIS IS BUCKY!
AMERICA IS GREAT... SHE IS WONDERFUL! I LIKE HER PEOPLE AND I WANT THEM TO LIKE ME! ANYTHING I CAN DO FOR THEM... ANYTHING AT ALL...
LOOKS LIKE WE HAVE NO CHOICE!
I HATE WARS AND VIOLENCE! BUT THE REDS... UGH! THEY THREATEN US ALL! MAYBE I CAN FLEE TO YOUR LAND SOMEDAY... AND THEY WILL TAKE ME BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN GENEROUS WITH YOU, EH?
I DON'T LIKE THIS, STEVE! HE SOUNDS LIKE A RED SPY HIMSELF! HE'S OVER-DOING IT!
LET'S HOLD TIGHT TILL WE FIND OUT!
AH, HERE WE ARE AT MY MODEST, UNWORTHY HOME! IT IS YOURS, AMERICANS!
WOW! MODEST? UNWORTHY?
BRING FOOD AND DRINK! LET THERE BE FESTIVITIES IN HONOR OF MY AMERICAN FRIENDS!
DOZENS OF SERVANTS BROUGHT HUGE TRAYS OF FOOD FOR THE FEAST AS ADU BEY'S DANCERS ENTERTAINED...
BOY! I WONDER WHAT THE POOR PEOPLE ARE DOING? YUM! YUM!
HOLD IT, BUCKY!
WHAT'S UP?
THAT GIRL! SHE'S TAPPING OUT A *MORSE CODE!*
TAP! TAP! TAP! TAP!
TAP! TAP!
TAP!
HELP... ME... I... AM... IN... TROUBLE... MEET... ME... TONIGHT... AT... THE... OLD... WELL...
2

HOURS LATER...
IT IS LATE AND TIME FOR YOU TO RETIRE! I HOPE YOU'VE ENJOYED YOURSELVES! I HAVE A ROOM READY FOR YOU! AH! YOU ARE SO LUCKY TO LIVE IN AMERICA! NOTHING TO FEAR... NO ONE WHO CAN BE A HIDDEN ENEMY!
WHY ARE YOU SO SET AGAINST THE REDS, MR. BEY? ARE THERE ANY AROUND HERE?
THEY'RE ALL OVER! THEY ARE UNDERGROUND, ARMING FOR AN UPRISING IN THE CITIES! WE LIVE IN SUCH FEAR! BUT-- HERE IS YOUR ROOM! GOOD NIGHT AND SLEEP TIGHT!
THANKS! GOOD NIGHT!
STEVE, THAT MORSE CODE STUFF! SOMETHING FUNNY, HUH? CAN ADU BEY BE OILING US UP TO THROW US OFF THE TRACK THAT HE'S A RED?
LOOKS LIKE IT, BUCKY! HOLD THE FORT HERE! I'M GOING TO KEEP A DATE!
THIS PLACE IS SURE GUARDED! GOT TO BE CAREFUL TO SNEAK BY PAST 'EM...
HELLO!
OH! YOU CAME! THANK GOODNESS! I WAS AFRAID YOU WOULDN'T!
WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?
I AM A CAPTIVE OF ADU BEY! I WANT TO ESCAPE...GO HOME TO MY PEOPLE!
YOU MEAN YOU'RE KEPT HERE AGAINST YOUR WILL?
HE STOLE ME FROM MY FAMILY! DON'T YOU SEE HOW HEAVILY GUARDED THIS PLACE IS? NO ONE CAN ESCAPE! HELP ME!
I'M AFRAID!
WELL, I CAN'T HELP YOU, BUT I KNOW SOMEONE WHO CAN!
WHO?
CAPTAIN AMERICA!

CAPTAIN AMERICA! OH, IT WOULD BE AN HONOR TO BE RESCUED BY HIM!
I'LL CONTACT HIM! MEANWHILE, WAIT FOR HIM AT THE STABLES!
A MOMENT LATER--
BUCKY! WAKE UP, LAD!
HUH? OH... GOSH! I'M SO SLEEPY! LEMME ALONE, STEVE!
I SAID, WAKE UP!
CAP! OH, GOSH! SURE! WOW! I DIDN'T KNOW!
BUCKY CHANGED INSTANTLY TO HIS FIGHTING UNIFORM, MAKING HIM THE PARTNER OF THE GREATEST SPY-FIGHTER THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN, THE FAMOUS CAPTAIN AMERICA!
WE GOT A JOB, CAP?
NOT MUCH OF A ONE, BUCKY... JUST RESCUING A GIRL WHO IS VERY MUCH AFRAID! HATE TO PLAY A TRICK LIKE THIS ON OUR GRACIOUS HOST...
OH, OH! IF YOUR IDEA IS TO GO HORSEBACK RIDING, CAP, FORGET IT... AND THAT GIRL!
ARE YOU WITH ME OR AGAINST ME, LAD?
WITH YOU, WHAT ELSE?
LET'S RIDE!
CAPTAIN AMERICA! OH, I WOULDN'T HAVE DREAMED ANYTHING LIKE THIS!
WELL, LET'S HOPE IT DOESN'T TURN INTO A NIGHTMARE! ADU BEY WILL BE AFTER US IN SECONDS!

THERE'S A PLACE WHERE WE CAN HIDE IN SAFETY! IT'S THE TOMB OF ADU BEY'S ANCESTORS! HE WOULD NEVER DESECRATE IT BY ENTERING!
HURRY! HERE COMES THE OLD BOY WITH HIS WHOLE GANG!
PAST THE SACRED PORTALS OF THE TOMB OF THE ANCIENT DEAD... DOWN INTO THE DUNGEONS LINED WITH THE EFFIGIES OF THE BEY FAMILY.
WOW! SOME TOMB!
THE BEYS ARE ALL BURIED INSIDE THOSE STATUES IN AN UPRIGHT POSITION! IT'S FRIGHTENING!
HERE'S ANOTHER DOOR!
PLEASE... DON'T GO IN THERE! I'M AFRAID!
YOU STAY OUT! I'LL GO IN! GREAT SCOTT!
WHAT IS IT, CAP?
LOOK!
WOW! GUNS! AMMUNITION! THIS IS A STORAGE FOR ARTILLERY, CAP!
RIGHT! AND IT'S RED ARTILLERY! HERE ARE PLANS AND CHARTS FOR A RED UPRISING IN THE CITIES!
AND A RADIO TRANSMITTING SET! IT'S A SPY HEADQUARTERS, ALL RIGHT, AND I DON'T NEED A GUESS AS TO WHO'S AT THE HEAD OF IT... OUR FAT BUDDY! HE REALLY TRIED TO THROW US OFF THE TRACK!
RIGHT... AND I'M GOING TO FACE HIM WITH THE HARD FACTS!
OH, NO! HE'LL KILL US!
CAP!
5

OH, OH! LOOKS LIKE WE FLUBBED OUT OUR QUARRY!
YEAH... BUT THIS QUARRY'S TURNING ON THE HUNTERS!
HELP! HELP!
CAP AND BUCKY FOUGHT VALIANTLY BUT THERE WERE TOO MANY OF THEM, AND SOON--
YOU BATTLE LIKE DEMONS, BUT IT IS OVER! WE ARE VERY PROUD TO HAVE CAUGHT EACH A ONE AS YOU!
YOU CAN TELL YOUR BOSS, ADU BIRY, THAT YOU DID A GOOD JOB, SEATH!
HELP! HELP!
SHIKA'S SCREAMS BROUGHT IN ADU AND HIS MEN--
WHAT THE BLAZES IS GOING ON HERE?
DON'T YOU KNOW?
SEIZE HIM!
HEY! WHAT GOES ON? HE'S YOUR BOSS!
YOU ARE WRONG, SIR! SHIKA IS THE HEAD OF THE GANG OF ZEDS! I KEPT HER PRISONER UNTIL I COULD FIND OUT WHERE SHE KEPT HER SUPPLIES! BUT I SEE IT'S TOO LATE FOR ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
CAP! WE WERE HOOD-WINKED!
LET'S MOVE, BUCKY! FOLLOW ME!
YAHOO!
BUT, CAP, WE'RE GOIN' AWAY FROM THEM, AND THRU THIS TUNNEL, / WHAT'S THE IDEA? AND WHY DON'T THEY SHOOT AT US IF THEY WANT TO STOP US?
EXPLANATIONS COME LATER! THIS IS THE TIME FOR ACTION! STEP ON IT!!
3

GET THIS MAN, AND HELP ME WITH THAT ROCK, BUCKY!
OKAY, BUT I'M GONNA GET IT, TOO!
THERE, THAT OUGHT TO DO THE WAY, MORT--
--AROUND TO THE OTHER SIDE!
WE'RE GOING BACK?
YEP! ADIU BEY! OUT--THIS WAY--FAST!
AS ADIU AND HIS MEN RUSHED OUT, CAPTAIN AMERICA OBTAINED THE GIRL SPY...
WELL, I HOLD THE ACE CARD, I'LL SHOW YOU! ERIKA! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?
NO! NO! DON'T SHOOT! NOT IN HERE!
DIE, CAPTAIN AMERICA!
KA-
-POW
-BOOM
-BLAM
-BLAM
NO! NO! NOOOO!
THAT DID IT! SHE FORGOT WHAT HER MEN AND I KNEW, THAT THE REVERBERATIONS OF A SHOT WOULD COLLAPSE THE CAVERN ROOF ON US! THAT WAS WHAT I HAD TO HAPPEN TO BE A RESTING PLACE OF YOUR FAMILY, SIR!
I AM HONORED TO HAVE IT SERVE AS A TOMB FOR THE STRUGGLE'S GREATEST FIGHTER, CAPTAIN! NOW, PERHAPS, I CAN LIVE IN PEACE!
MAY THE WHOLE WORLD BE FOREVER AS PEACEFUL AS THIS NIGHT IS NOW, TUSKOS TO YOU AND BUCKY, CAPTAIN AMERICA!
AMEN!
THE END

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laxing and profitable too, for I was able to continue my examination of the ancient maps, which I had brought along with me. In this manner, I reassured myself that my destination was indeed the area agreed upon by most of those old cartographers as the probable location of the edge of the world.

When I reached the island of Madagascar, I decided I would stay at one of the hotels in the largest city there, to ask as many questions as I could without arousing alarm or suspicion of my intentions. I was particularly interested in island legends and superstitions, for in such ancient beliefs and customs, one can often find a basic element of truth and factual reality. Therefore, if the folklore of these island people included a legend about disaster and destruction waiting for men and ships somewhere out there in the Indian Ocean, then it might very well be that this belief originated centuries ago when the ancestors of this island people had experienced just such a catastrophe. And thus there would be basis in fact to the belief I was trying to track down about the edge of the world actually existing in this area!

And so I asked my questions. But most of the residents were young people, modern, who could not recall the legends of their ancestors. So I decided to visit a very old island resident someone told me about. I found him living in a grass hut out in the country, some distance from the city. When I mentioned the object of my search to the old man, he pointed to a small mountain range in the distance, uttered one word: "TABOO!" and refused to say anything else. But I had found what I was looking for. *Someone* understood what I was searching for! Without further waste of time, I hiked to the small mountain range, taking along a small knapsack of food. By early the next afternoon, I had reached the foot of the range. I started going up. It took me several days, but I finally made it to the top!

There was a flat plateau on the top of the mountain. I was elated to find that, beyond the plateau, there was *no sight of land, nor of water!* Just a dense, swirling mist of vapor! This *could* be the edge of the world! Alas! As I turned to make my way off the plateau, the edge on which I had been standing suddenly collapsed, and I began to fall . . . fall . . . fall . . . ! Yes, I *had* found the Edge of the World! But I've been falling for eight days and nights now, and I'll keep on falling, until I die of starvation! When will this torment end for me? And how can I report my astounding discovery to the world that *somewhere* in this *round* world of ours the world ceases to be round . . . it is *flat* . . . and I have fallen off the edge!

THE END D-897

STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF

MEN'S ADVENTURES, published bi-monthly at New York, N.Y., for October 1, 1953.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, COMIC COMBINE CORP., 270 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.; Editor, STAN LEE, 270 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.; Managing editor, MARTIN GOODMAN, 270 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.; Business manager, MONROE FROEHLICH, JR., 270 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given.)

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3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.)

None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semiweekly, and triweekly newspapers only.)

(Signed) MONROE FROEHLICH, JR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21st day of September, 1953.

(SEAL) TESS HARWOOD (GOLDBERG)

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No. 03-6797825
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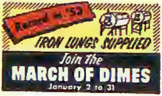

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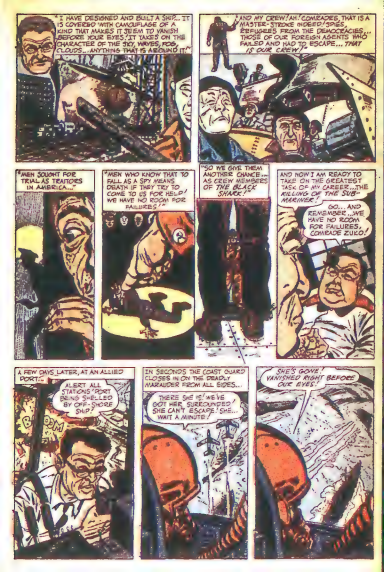
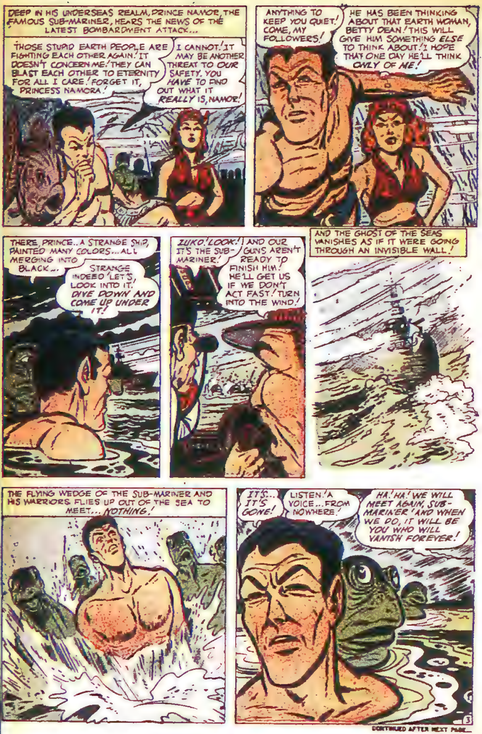
SUB-MARINER
THERE'S THE SHIP WE'RE LOOKING FOR... THE SCOURGE OF THE SEAS!
WAIT, PRINCE NAMOR! LOOK! IT'S DISAPPEARING... RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES!
PRINCE NAMOR, KNOWN THE WORLD OVER AS THE SUB-MARINER, HAS VERY LITTLE USE FOR HUMAN BEINGS! HUNTED BY THE LAWFUL AND THE UNLAWFUL ALIKE, HE AND HIS UNDERSEA SUBJECTS STAND ALONE AGAINST THEM! BUT, ALTHOUGH HE DOESN'T TRUST THOSE WHO LIVE ABOVE WATER, THE ONE'S HE TRUSTS THE *LEAST* AND HATES THE *MOST* ARE... *THE REDS!*
IN A COUNCIL ROOM BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN...
IF WE ARE TO ACCOMPLISH OUR PURPOSE... IF WE ARE TO MAKE THE SEAS SAFE FOR THE COMING OF OUR RED FLEETS, THERE IS ONE PERSON WHO MUST BE *LIQUIDATED* MORE THAN ANY OTHER! AND THAT PERSON IS THE *SUB-MARINER... PRINCE NAMOR!*
ALTHOUGH HE HATES ALL MANKIND, HE ALWAYS ENDS UP HELPING THE LAW AND THE BELIEVERS IN DEMOCRACY! THEREFORE HE IS OUR *ENEMY!* HE *MUST* BE STOPPED AND I, ZUKO, MASTER SPY, ARTIST OF CAMOUFLAGE AND DECEPTION, SEA CAPTAIN, AND, ABOVE ALL, A COMMUNIST, WILL STOP HIM!
YOU HAVE THE COUNCIL'S PERMISSION TO GO AHEAD, ZUKO! WHAT IS YOUR PLAN?


"I HAVE DESIGNED AND BUILT A SHIP... IT IS COVERED WITH CAMOUFLAGE OF A KIND THAT MAKES IT SEEM TO VANISH BEFORE YOUR EYES! IT TAKES ON THE CHARACTER OF THE SKY, WAVES, FOG, CLOUDS... ANYTHING THAT IS AROUND IT!"
"AND MY CREW? MY COMRADES, THAT IS A MASTER-STROKE! HORRIFIED SPIES, REFUGEES FROM THE DEMOCRACIES, TIRED OF OUR FOREIGN AGENTS WHO FAILED AND HAD TO ESCAPE... THAT IS OUR CREW!"
"MEN SOUGHT FOR TRIAL AS TRAITORS IN AMERICA..."
"MEN WHO KNOW THAT TO BILL AS A SPY MEANS DEATH IF THEY TRY TO COME BACK TO THEIR OWN LAND! WE HAVE NO ROOM FOR FAILURES!"
"DID WE GIVE THEM ANOTHER CHANCE AS CREW MEMBERS OF THE BLACK STARS?"
"AND NOW I AM READY TO TAKE ON THE GREATEST TASK OF MY CAREER...THE SINKING OF THE QUEEN MARIMBA!"
"DO... AND REMEMBER...WE HAVE NO ROOM FOR FAILURES, COMRADE ZUCO!"
A FEW DAYS LATER, AT AN ALLIED PORT...
"ALERT ALL STATIONS! SEND SHELLED BY SUB-SHORE SHIP!"
IN SECONDS THE COAST GUARD CLOSES IN ON THE DEADLY MARAUDER FROM ALL SIDES...
"THERE SHE IS! WE'VE GOT HER SURROUNDED! SHE CAN'T ESCAPE! SHE... WAIT A MINUTE!"
"SHE'S GONE! VANISHED RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES!"



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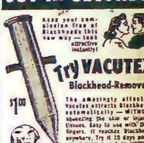

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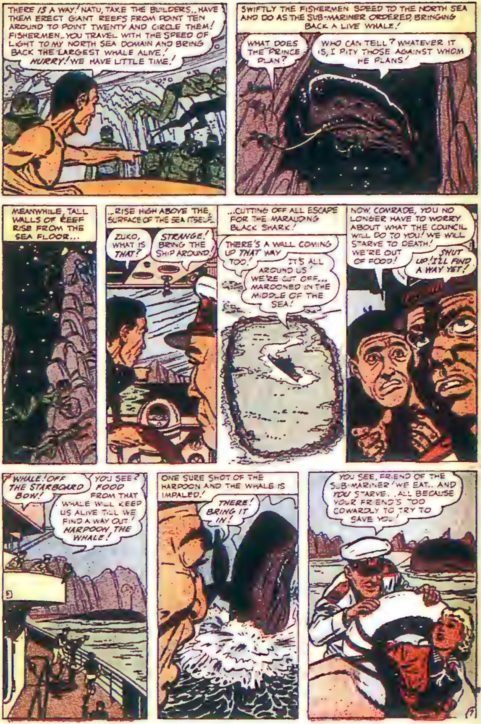
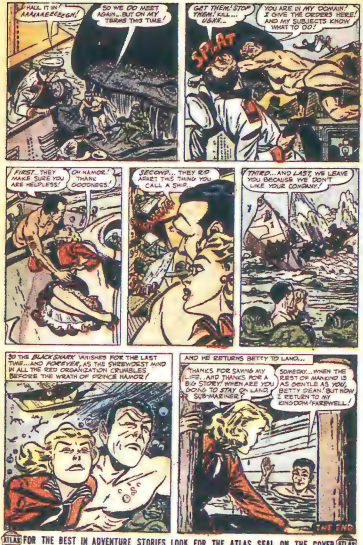
YES, WE WILL MEET AGAIN, AND WE SHALL SEE WHICH ONE WILL WIN, NO EARTH-MAN CAN MAKE A FOOL OF PRINCE NAMOR AND GET AWAY WITH IT!
AND LEAGUES AWAY...
YOU HAD YOUR CHANCE AT HIM, BUT YOU WEREN'T READY! REMEMBER WHAT THE CONDOR SAID ABOUT FAILURE, COMRADE ZEMO!
I AM NOT FORGOTTEN AND I WILL NOT FAIL!
THE TRICK IS TO MET THE SUB-MARINER CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE BLACK SHARK SO WE CAN DRILL UP ON HIM WITH OUR GUNS! LOWER THE SUBMARISH FROM THE HOLD OF THE SHIP! IT WILL BE OUR TURN!
YES, COMRADE!
AND SO ZUKO'S SECOND ACE IN THE HOLE IS USED. A FAST, BLUISH LITTLE TWO-MAN SUBMARINE WITH THE SAME VANISHING QUALITIES AS THE BLACK SHARK...
WHAT IS OUR DESTINATION, ZUKO?
OOHM...AS FAR AS WE CAN GO UNTIL WE FIND THE SUB-MARINER! INTO HIS KINGDOM, IF WE CAN MAKE IT!
HOURS LATER...
AN INVADER! AFTER IT!
ST WORKED! NOW...INTO THE CURRENT!
WHIPPED LIKE THE DEVIL!
STAY WITH IT! GO STRAIGHT AHEAD!! I HAVE AN IDEA!
THE SUB-MARINER CIRCLES AROUND TO THE SPOT WHERE THE VANISHING SUB WAS HEADED, AND...
THERE IT IS AGAIN! I KNEW IT! IT'S TRYING TO DECOY US TO SOMETHING!

LOOK OUT! THERE HE IS... DIVING UNDER US!
ZUKO! CALLING ZUKO ON THE BLACK SHARK! HE'S FOUND US! WHAT'LL WE DO?
NO ONE MAKES A FOOL OF PRINCE NAMOR!
ANYONE WHO TRIES, DIES... BECAUSE THEY CAN'T BE GOOD MEN!
ZUKO! ANSWER ME! HE'S SMASHING US INTO THE REEF!
HE'S AAAEEEEEGH!
BLUB! BLUB! BLU-U-U-U-U-B...
THAT'S THE END OF THAT! ANOTHER FAILURE, COMRADE! NOW HOW WILL YOU LURE THE SUB-MARINER WITHIN GUN RANGE?
I HAVE NOT FAILED YET!
EVERY MAN HAS A WEAKNESS! EVEN THE SUB-MARINER! IN HIS CASE IT IS A WOMAN... A GIRL NAMED...
... BETTY DEAN! AND IT IS SHE WHO GETS A TELEPHONE CALL A LITTLE LATER...
YOU SAY THERE'S A SCOOP FOR ME IF I COME TO THE PIER ON THE SOUTH RIVER TONIGHT?
YES, BUT COME ALONE! OTHERWISE THE WHOLE THING IS OFF!
THAT NIGHT...
SHE SHOWED UP, ZUKO!
OF COURSE! SHE'S A WOMAN AND A NEWS REPORTER! THE COMBINATION MAKES FOR A STRONG SENSE OF CURIOSITY! THERE, COMRADE, IS THE DECOY THAT WILL NOT FAIL!
WHAT...? A COMMIE SHIP!

LET GO OF ME, YOU FILTHY REDS!
BRING HER ON BOARD!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS OUTRAGE?
YOU'LL FIND OUT!
TIE HER FAST! I DON'T WANT TO LOSE HER JUST YET!
YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS! THE COAST GUARD WILL NAB YOU!
IN SECONDS, THE BLACK SHARK SAILS OFF WITH BETTY DEAN TIED TO THE BOW... THE DECOY FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE SUB-MARINER!
AND, IN THE UNDERSEA KINGDOM...
IT LOOKS AS IF YOU MET YOUR MATCH, NAMOR! THE RED ELUDED YOU! ISN'T IT TIME YOU GAVE UP THINKING ABOUT THOSE EARTHLINGS AND SETTLED DOWN HERE FOR GOOD? WE COULD GET MARRIED...
ENOUGH, PRINCESS! YES, HE DID GET AWAY FROM ME... BUT HE PROMISED WE WOULD MEET AGAIN, AND WHEN WE DO...
WHAT IS IT, NATU?
LOOK! HERE IN THE SURFASCOPE! THE MYSTERIOUS SHIP! BUT THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE...
WALLOPING HALIBUTS! BETTY DEAN!
DON'T GO, NAMOR!
SHE'S RIGHT, PRINCE NAMOR! IT'S A DECOY... TO LURE YOU CLOSE TO THE SHIP'S GUNS! YOU WILL BE KILLED! THERE'S NO WAY TO SAVE HER! SHE'S DOOMED... AND SO ARE YOU, IF YOU GO AFTER HER!
6


THERE IS A WAY! NATU, TAKE THE BUILDERS.. HAVE THEM ERECT GIANT REEFS FROM POINT TEN AROUND TO POINT TWENTY AND CIRCLE THEM! FISHERMEN.. YOU TRAVEL WITH THE SPEED OF LIGHT TO MY NORTH SEA DOMAIN AND BRING BACK THE LARGEST WHALE ALIVE! HURRY! WE HAVE LITTLE TIME!
SWIFTLY THE FISHERMEN SPEED TO THE NORTH SEA AND DO AS THE SUB-MARINER ORDERED, BRINGING BACK A LIVE WHALE!
WHAT DOES THE PRINCE PLAN?
WHO CAN TELL? WHATEVER IT IS, I PITY THOSE AGAINST WHOM HE PLANS!
MEANWHILE, TALL WALLS OF REEF RISE FROM THE SEA FLOOR...
..RISE HIGH ABOVE THE SURFACE OF THE SEA ITSELF.
ZUKO, WHAT IS THAT?
STRANGE! BRING THE SHIP AROUND!
..CUTTING OFF ALL ESCAPE FOR THE MARAUDING BLACK SHARK!
THERE'S A WALL COMING UP THAT WAY TOO!
IT'S ALL AROUND US! WE'RE CUT OFF... MAROONED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SEA!
NOW, COMRADE, YOU NO LONGER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT WHAT THE COUNCIL WILL DO TO YOU! WE WILL STARVE TO DEATH! WE'RE OUT OF FOOD!
SHUT UP! I'LL FIND A WAY YET!
WHALE! OFF THE STARBOARD BOW!
YOU SEE? FOOD FROM THAT WHALE WILL KEEP US ALIVE TILL WE FIND A WAY OUT! HARPOON THE WHALE!
ONE SURE SHOT OF THE HARPOON AND THE WHALE IS IMPALED!
THERE! BRING IT IN!
YOU SEE, FRIEND OF THE SUB-MARINER! WE EAT.. AND YOU STARVE.. ALL BECAUSE YOUR FRIEND'S TOO COWARDLY TO TRY TO SAVE YOU!
7


HALL IT IN MANHATTAN!
SO WE DO MEET AGAIN... BUT ON MY TERMS THIS TIME!
GET THEM! STOP THEM! KILL... URRR...
SPLAT
YOU ARE IN MY DOMAIN! I GIVE THE ORDERS HERE! AND MY SUBJECTS KNOW WHAT TO DO!
FIRST, THEY MAKE SURE YOU ARE HELPLESS!
OH MANOR! THANK GOODNESS!
SECOND!... THEY ED ARNET THE THING YOU CALL A SHIP
THIRD!...AND LAST WE LEAVE YOU BECAUSE WE DON'T LIKE YOUR COMPANY!
SO THE BLACK DIARY VANISHES FOR THE LAST TIME... AND SO, HOWEVER, AS THE SHERWOOD AND IN ALL THE RED ORGANIZATION CRUMBLES BEFORE THE WRATH OF PRINCE MANORE!
AND HE RETURNS BETTY TO LANG...
THANKS FOR SAVING MY LIFE... AND THANKS FOR A SO STORY! WHEN ARE YOU AND MANORE GOING TO BE MARRIED?
SOMEDAY... WHEN THE REST OF MANORE IS AS GENTLE AS YOU, BETTY DEAR... BUT NOW I RETURN TO MY KINGDOM! FAREWELL!
THE END
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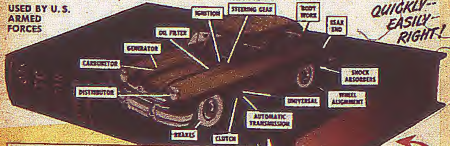

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